

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORT  TOPIC Military Information from Frankfurt/Oder

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EVALUATION   25X1 PLACE OBTAINED   25X1DATE OF CONTENT   25X1 ILLEGIBDATE OBTAINED   25X1 DATE PREPARED 17 December 1953REFERENCE  PAGES   ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)  REMARKS   ILLEGIB

On 23 November 1953, the Horn Kaserne in Frankfurt/Oder was occupied almost to capacity by about 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and, a few, motor transport insignia. On 13 November, about 25 troops engaged in close-order drill in the barracks yard. On 15 November, about 200 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia left the installation at about 2:30 p.m., marching to the front section of the Hindenburg Kaserne via August Bebelstrasse. The officers returned at about 6:15 p.m. On 19 November, about 30 troops were drilling while other troops received instruction on T-34/85 tanks in the barracks yard. On 21 November, about 50 troops received training at the obstacle course. Armored personnel carrier left the installation.

On 23 November, the Zieithen Kaserne was occupied almost to capacity by about 1,500 to 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia and, a few, with motor transport insignia. On 12 November, two armored scout cars in the barracks yard. At about 2 p.m. on 13 November, 3 trucks towing 37-mm AA guns were seen entering the installation from the direction of Muellrose; the vehicles left a short time later. On 16 November, about 20 soldiers with baggage marched to the railroad station, coming from the barracks installation. On 23 November, about 50 troops received instruction on 4 x 120-mm mortars in the training area near the water tower.

On 23 November, the Biechhorn Kaserne was occupied below capacity by about 1,500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia; and, a few, blue-bordered black and black-bordered blue epaulets. The number of transient soldiers decreased slightly. On 14 November, about 50 troops wearing black-bordered crimson and red-bordered black epaulets left the installation for the railroad station. Baggage was hauled to the station by truck. On 18 November, 80 troops were lined up in the barracks yard while another 10 soldiers loaded baggage on 2 trucks. On 20 November, about 50 troops engaged in physical training in the barracks yard.

On 22 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied almost to capacity by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport

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insignia. On 12 November, about 30 troops were cleaning 8 x 85-mm AA guns and 1 x 37-mm AA gun in the barracks yard. At about 3 p.m., about 60 troops entered the installation from the direction of Rosengarten. On 19 November, about 60 troops engaged in drill and about 50 troops in physical training in the barracks yard. Motor vehicles seen en route to and from the installation [redacted]

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5. On 22 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by about 800 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport and tank insignia; and blue-bordered black epaulets. On 14 November, numerous officers received theoretical instruction in the motion picture room. Motor vehicles [redacted] were observed.

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6. At 3:30 p.m. on 10 November, a shipment of 45 boxcars, each occupied by about 30 to 35 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets passed through the Frankfurt/Oder marshaling yard, coming from the direction of Reppen and proceeding toward Cottbus. At 5:30 a.m. on 16 November, a shipment of about 50 factory-new trucks without numbers left the station for an undetermined destination.

7. On 11 November, about 300 unarmed recruits wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets and carrying baggage left the Frankfurt/Oder railroad station toward the Eichhorn Kaserne. On 12 November, about 60 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia, armed with carbines and submachine guns and carrying rolled blankets and baggage were seen en route to the station. At 8:30 a.m. on 16 November, the railroad station was occupied to capacity by troops of all branches of service. About 80 soldiers left toward Cottbus aboard a passenger train. On 18 November, about 80 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and a few black-bordered crimson epaulets and carrying baggage entered the railroad station, coming from the direction of the barracks installations.

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8. [redacted] the old detached buildings on Buschmuehlenweg, which had recently been surrounded by a board fence, were being re-occupied by officers and their families.

9. On 18 November, 200 bedsteads were unloaded at the loading ramp Schubert Strasse and were shipped to the Kech depot. On 20 November, 134 tables and 450 chairs were unloaded at the same ramp. All billeting equipment had come from the main depot in Teltow-West. A shipment of about 17 boxcarloads of billeting equipment was expected to arrive on 23 November.

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10. On 2 November, about 200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, all coming from the Horn Kaserne, were entrained at the loading ramp on Schubert Strasse. [redacted]  
[redacted] JSU-122 guns [redacted] and T-34/85 tank [redacted] were seen leaving the installation toward Westkreuz. On 15 November, about 1,500 to 1,800 troops, including 1,000 to 1,200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and the others black-bordered black epaulets were unloaded from 50 railroad cars at the loading ramp on Schubert Strasse. The troops subsequently left for the installation.

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11. On 16 November, 1,500 to 1,800 troops marched from the barracks installation to the loading ramp and were entrained in 45 railroad cars. On 20 November, JSU-122 guns [redacted] left the installation toward Westkreuz.

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12. On 21 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. [ ] 7 x 76-mm AA guns at the northern edge of the installation area. On 5 November, about 100 troops left the installation toward Westkreuz. On 7 November, about 500 troops, including some carrying wreaths and preceded by a military band, left the installation toward the town.

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13. On 21 November, the Buelow Kaserne was occupied by about 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Ten 57-mm AT guns and 10 x 76-mm AT guns were seen in the barracks area. On 5 November about 50 troops engaged in close order drill. On 15 November, about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets received instruction on 57-mm AT guns. Sedan [ ] was observed.

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14. On 21 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by about 700 troops. On 5 November, an SP gun without number left the installation toward Westkreuz. On 7 November, a column of about 450 troops, wearing red-bordered black epaulets and preceded by a military band, was seen on August Bebelstrasse near Markendorfer Strasse, presumably coming from Hindenburg Kaserne. On 21 November, about 50 troops left the installation toward Westkreuz. Motor vehicles [ ] were seen.

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15. On 21 November, the Horn Kaserne was occupied by about 500 troops. At least 30 tanks and/or SP guns were observed in the barracks area. On 5 November, tanks [ ] left the installation toward Westkreuz. At about 2 p.m., about 100 officers marched in the same direction. Motor vehicles seen en route to and from the installation [ ]

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16. On 7 November, a column of about 150 troops and another column of about 350 troops, each column preceded by a military band, were seen coming from the direction of the Buelow Kaserne and the Horn Kaserne.

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[ ] Comment. The information confirms and supplements the occupation of the installation [ ] The Hindenburg Kaserne presumably is occupied as previously by the 57th Gds Tank Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div. In addition to the mechanized unit of the division assumed stationed in the Ziethen Kaserne, the 3 x 37-mm AA guns observed vaguely indicate the presence there of the 238th Gds AAA Regt of the division, which had not been observed since the reoccupation of the installations. Paragraphs 10 and 11 tend to indicate that the Horn Kaserne is also being used as transient quarters. The decrease of troops involved in the personnel exchange, which is reported [ ] corresponds with observations at other posts in East Germany. [ ]

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